

On page 6, line 6, change "module" to --module--.

On page 36, line 23, change "example" to --exemplary--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-20, 26-31, 33, 36, 37, 39, 41-44, 47-51, 57-59, 64-67, 70, and 73-75 and add new claims 76-93 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management comprising:
a computerized reservation system;
a relational database server communicably linked to the computerized reservation system; [and]
a traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system resident within a personal computer providing a graphical user interface for communication between the [computer user,] corporate traveler, at least one travel agency, the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system, and the relational-database server, and
wherein the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system is configured for selectively allowing the traveler to complete a travel reservation and communicate the completed travel reservation to the travel agency for post reservation processing.

In claim 2, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--; and
line 5, change "travel" to --traveler--.

In claim 3, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

In claim 4, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

5. (Amended) The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 3, wherein the travel planning module includes a series of graphical user interfaces configured for allowing the traveler to plan and book [planning and booking of a] at least one non-routine trip including at least one selected from a group comprising air, hotel, and car accommodations.

6. (Amended) The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 3, wherein the travel planning module includes a series of graphical user interfaces configured for allowing the traveler to plan and book [planning and booking of a] at least one repeat trip including at least one selected from a group comprising air, hotel, and car accommodations.

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In claim 7, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

In claim 8, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

In claim 9, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

In claim 10, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

In claim 11, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--; and

line 3, change "travel" to --traveler--.

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12. (Amended) A method for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management [utilizing] that utilizes a personal computer communicably linked to the corporate traveler, at least one travel agency, and a relational database server that is communicably linked to a computerized reservation system that provides travel information from the computerized reservation system to the relational database server and the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system, [that comprises] comprising the steps of:

preparing a travel request from the traveler based on the traveler's

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requested travel plan;
selectively obtaining approval for the traveler's requested travel plan;
preparing an expense report based on the traveler's requested travel;
plan; [and]
obtaining approval for the expense report and the traveler's requested
travel plan;
receiving from the traveler a completed travel reservation based on the
traveler's approved travel plan; and
communicating the completed travel reservation to the travel agency for
post reservation processing.

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13. (Amended) The method for corporate [travel planning,] traveler planning expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 12, wherein the step of preparing a travel request from the traveler based on the traveler's requested travel plan comprises the steps of:
receiving the traveler's selection of a new trip icon;
energizing [a] the new trip icon;
providing corporate policy data from the relations database;
receiving the traveler's [specifying] identification of a purpose for the trip;
receiving the traveler's selection of [selecting] an organization point and a

destination point for the trip;

selectively receiving the traveler's selection of one of a plurality of
[selecting a] flight times to travel from the origination point and the destination point;

selectively receiving the traveler's selection of [selecting] a flight time for
the return flight from the destination point to the origination point;

selectively creating a record of flight information reflecting the selected
origination point, destination point, flight time to travel from the origination point to the destination point, and flight time from the destination point to the origination point;

selectively receiving the traveler's selection of one of a plurality of hotel
icons;

energizing [a] the hotel icon selected by the traveler;
requesting hotel information in response to the hotel icon selected by the
traveler;

receiving the traveler's selection of [selecting] a hotel;
creating a record of the hotel selection;
selectively receiving the traveler's selection of one of a plurality of car
rental icons;

energizing [a] the car rental icon selected by the traveler;

requesting car rental information in response to the car rental icon selected by the traveler;

receiving the traveler's selection of [selecting] a car;

creating a record of the car selection;

selectively receiving the traveler's selection of a cost icon;

energizing [a] the cost icon selected by the traveler;

selectively receiving the traveler's selection of a search for a cheaper flight icon;

searching for a cheaper flight in response to the traveler's selection of the cheaper flight icon, [and

sending the travel request to a travel agency for booking]

selectively receiving the traveler's selection of a different flight icon; and

updating the record of flight information based on the traveler's selection of the different flight icon.

14. (Amended) The method for corporate travel planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 12, wherein the step of preparing a travel request further comprises the steps of:

receiving the traveler's selection of one of a plurality of frequent trip icons;

energizing [a] the frequent trip icon selected by the traveler;

selecting a frequent trip travel plan based on the frequent trip icon selected by the traveler; [and sending the travel request to a travel agency for booking].

15. (Amended) The method for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 12, wherein the step of selectively obtaining approval for the traveler's requested travel plan further comprises the steps of:

electronically sending the traveler's requested travel plan [request] to an approver;

providing the approver with corporate policy from the relational database;

electronically approving the travel request; and

electronically notifying the traveler of the approval of the traveler's requested travel plan.

16. (Amended) The method for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 12, wherein the step of preparing an expense report based on the traveler's requested travel plan further comprises the steps of:

energizing a new expense report icon;

specifying the date and purpose of the expense;
detailing at least one of the air, car, hotel, meal and business
entertainment purposes of the traveler's requested travel plan;
calculating expense totals;
checking for corporate policy compliance;
creating an expense report; and
electronically routing the expense report for approval.

In claim 17, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--.

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18. (Amended) A client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management comprising:
a computerized reservation system;
a relational database server communicably linked to the computerized reservation system; [and]
a traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system resident within a personal computer providing a graphical user interface for communication between the [computer user,] corporate traveler, at least one travel agency, the traveler planning, expense reporting, and travel management system and the relational database server;[,] and

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wherein the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system [comprising] includes:

a travel planning module having an automatic travel request approval device for automatically approving travel requests made by the traveler before travel expenses are incurred and a series of graphical user interfaces for allowing at least one traveler to plan and book routine and non-routine trips that include at least one selected from a group comprising air, hotel, and car accommodations and communicate the traveler's planned and booked routine and nonroutine trips to the travel agency for post planning and booking processing;[,]

a travel expense reporting module having a expense report approval and routing device for automatically approving and routing expense reports;[,] and

a travel decision maker module configured for incorporating information from the travel planning module and the expense reporting module and providing pre-travel and post-travel reporting [, the travel planning module includes means for automated approval of travel requests before travel expenses are incurred and a series of graphical user interfaces for the planning and booking of routine and non-routine trips including air, hotel and car accommodations, the travel expense

reporting module includes means for automated expense report approval and means for automated expense report approval and routing, and the travel decision maker module incorporates information from the travel planning module and the expense reporting module for providing pre-travel and post-travel reporting].

In claim 19, line 1, change "travel" to --traveler--; and
line 5, change "travel" to --traveler--.

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20. (Amended) A computer-implemented method of managing travel for an enterprise, comprising the steps of:
receiving a request to book a travel plan from a traveler;
determining whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with travel policies;
notifying the traveler of whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with the travel policies;
selectively allowing the traveler to notify a reservation system of a completed travel reservation depending upon whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with the travel policies and communicate the completed travel reservation to a travel agency for post reservation processing;

computing expense data corresponding to the traveler's requested travel plan; and

maintaining a storage subsystem reflecting travel information for the enterprise, including requested travel plans and corresponding expense data.

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26. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of determining whether the travel plan complies with the travel policies includes comparing information in the traveler's requested travel plan with a set of travel rules associated with [a requester] the enterprise and the traveler.

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27. (Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein comparing information in the traveler's requested travel plan includes accessing the storage subsystem for the set of travel rules associated with the [requester] traveler and the enterprise.

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28. (Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the set of travel rules associated with the [requester] traveler and enterprise includes travel rules for at least one individual, [a] group, [and the enterprise] or subcategory of individuals.

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29. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of receiving a request includes:

generating a modified travel plan when it is determined that the travel plan does not comply with the travel policies, and supplying the modified travel plan to the [requester] traveler.

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30. (Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the generating step includes: modifying the travel plan to comply with the travel policies by sending a revised travel itinerary reflecting changes to the received travel plan to a computerized reservation system, and receiving a response from the computerized reservation system including information reflecting availability of travel resources based on the revised travel itinerary.

31. (Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising generating a report including information corresponding to the requested travel plan, response, and expense data based on the completed travel reservation.

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33. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of receiving a request includes providing an application accessible to the [requester] traveler for allowing

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~~the traveler to arrange [selecting] the travel plan and book the travel plan with a central reservation system.~~

36. (Amended) A system for managing travel of an enterprise, comprising:

 a storage subsystem reflecting travel information for the enterprise, including requested travel plans and corresponding expense data;

 a memory having program instructions; and

 a processor operating in response to the program instructions to

 receive a request to book a travel plan from a traveler,

 determine whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with travel policies associated with the enterprise,

 selectively allowing the traveler to complete a travel reservation based on whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with the travel policies and communicating the completed travel reservation to a travel agency for post reservation processing, and

 compute expense data corresponding to the traveler's requested travel plan.

37. (Amended) The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to provide the traveler with access to a computerized reservation system for

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receiving the traveler's completed travel reservation.

39. (Amended) The system of claim 38, wherein the processor is further configured to allow the traveler to send a travel itinerary to the computerized reservation system, and [to] receive a response from the computerized reservation system including information reflecting availability of travel resources based on the travel itinerary.

41. (Amended) The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to compare information in the travel plan with a set of travel rules associated with the [requester] traveler and the enterprise.

42. (Amended) The system of claim 41, wherein the processor is further configured to access the storage subsystem for the set of travel rules associated with the [requester] traveler and the enterprise.

43. (Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the set of travel rules associated with the [requester] traveler and enterprise includes travel rules for at least one individual, [a] group, [and the enterprise] or subcategory of individuals.

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44. (Amended) The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to generate a modified travel plan when it is determined that the traveler's requested travel plan does not comply with the travel policies, and to supply the modified travel plan to the [requester] traveler.

47. (Amended) The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to provide an application accessible to the [requester] traveler for selecting the travel plan and booking the travel plan so as to allow the traveler to complete the travel reservation with a central reservation system.

48. (Amended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium having instructions for performing a method for managing travel for an enterprise, the method comprising:
receiving a request to book a travel plan from a traveler;
determining whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with travel policies associated with the enterprise;
computing expense data corresponding to the travel plan;
selectively allowing the traveler to complete a travel reservation based on whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with the travel policies and communicating the completed travel reservation to a travel agency for post

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reservation processing; and

maintaining a storage subsystem reflecting travel information for the enterprise including requested travel plans and corresponding expense data.

49. (Amended) A computer implemented method of managing information in a travel system, comprising the steps of:

storing travel information corresponding to travel itineraries and associated expense data, and travel policy data in a storage subsystem;

arranging travel itineraries for [users] travelers in a planning subsystem;

allowing the travelers to reserve requested travel itineraries with an external facility having information on travel resources and communicate reserved travel itineraries to a travel agency for subsequent processing;

generating reports corresponding to the travel information in a reporting subsystem; and

linking the reporting subsystem and the planning subsystem via the storage subsystem.

50. (Amended) The method of claim 49, [wherein the arranging step includes booking a travel itinerary with an external facility with information on travel resources, and] further comprising the step of:

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determining [that] whether at least one [any booked] travel itinerary complies with travel policies through policy compliance analysis.

51. (Amended) The method of claim 50, [wherein the arranging step further includes] further comprising the step of:

notifying traveler's requesting travel itineraries [each user booking a travel itinerary] of results of the policy compliance analysis.

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57. (Amended) A travel system, comprising;

a storage subsystem for linking a planning subsystem and a reporting subsystem;[.]

the storage subsystem reflecting travel information corresponding to travel itineraries and associated expense data, and travel policy data;

the planning subsystem configured to arrange travel itineraries for [users] travelers, allow the travelers to reserve requested travel itineraries with an external facility with information on travel resources, and communicate reserved travel itineraries to a travel agency for subsequent processing; and

the reporting subsystem configured to generate reports corresponding to the travel information.

58. (Amended) The travel system of claim 57, wherein the travel planning subsystem includes

[a booking component configured to book a travel itinerary with an external facility with information on travel resources, and]

a policy compliance analysis component configured to [ensure that any booked] determine whether at least one travel itinerary complies with stored travel policies.

59. (Amended) The travel system of claim 58, wherein the travel planning subsystem further includes

a notification component configured to notify traveler's requesting travel itineraries [each user booking a travel itinerary] of results of a policy compliance analysis.

64. (Amended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium having instructions for performing a method for managing travel for an enterprise, the method comprising:

storing travel information corresponding to travel itineraries and associated expense data, and travel policy data in a storage subsystem;

arranging travel itineraries for [users] travelers in a planning subsystem;

allowing the travelers to reserve requested travel itineraries with an external facility having information on travel resources and communicate reserved travel itineraries to a travel agency for subsequent processing;

generating reports corresponding to the travel information in a reporting subsystem; and

linking the planning subsystem and the reporting subsystem via the storage subsystem.

65. (Amended) A method of managing travel for an enterprise via an external source of information on travel resources, comprising:

linking in a database, a planning subsystem, a management subsystem, and a reporting subsystem, said database including travel data associated with travelers of the enterprise, enterprise policy data, and preference data associated with each traveler,

wherein the steps performed using the planning subsystem include

receiving requests from the travelers to book travel plans,

accessing the external source to determine whether there are

available travel resources for each request based on preference data

associated with the traveler,

[booking] allowing the traveler to reserve a travel plan with the

external source based on a result of the determination for each request
and communicate reserved the travel plan to a travel agency for
subsequent processing,

determining whether each [booked] reserved travel plan complies with the enterprise policy data, and

updating the travel data in the database to reflect each [booked]
reserved travel plan and whether it has been authorized;

wherein the steps performed using the management subsystem include
accessing the external source for information corresponding to [booked] reserved travel plans in the database, and

updating the travel data in the database to reflect the information from the external source and related expense information; and

wherein the steps performed using the reporting subsystem include

updating the database to reflect enterprise-wide travel information,
and

generating reports corresponding to the travel data.

66. (Amended) An enterprise travel management system communicably linked to an external source of information on travel resources, comprising:
a database linking a planning subsystem, a management subsystem, and

a reporting subsystem, said database including travel data associated with travelers of the enterprise, enterprise policy data, and preference data associated with each traveler,

wherein the planning subsystem has at least one component configured to

receive requests from travelers to book travel plans,

access the external source to determine whether there are available travel resources for each request based on preference data associated with the traveler,

[book] allow the traveler to reserve a travel plan with the external source based on a result of the determination for each request and communicate the reserved travel plan to a travel agency for subsequent processing,

determine whether each [booked] reserved travel plan complies with the enterprise policy data, and

update the travel data in the database to reflect each [booked] reserved travel plan and whether it has been authorized;

wherein the management subsystem has at least one component configured to

access the external source for information corresponding to

[booked] reserved travel plans in the database, and
update the travel data in the database to reflect the information
from the external source and related expense information; and
wherein the reporting subsystem has at least one component configured

to

update the database to reflect enterprise-wide travel information, and
generate reports corresponding to the travel data.

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67. (Amended) A computer-implemented method of managing travel for an enterprise using an accessible external source of information on travel resources, comprising the steps of
storing travel data associated with travelers of the enterprise, enterprise policy data, and preference data associated with each traveler;
receiving requests from the travelers to book travel plans;
determining whether there are available travel resources for each request based on preference data associated with the traveler;
[booking] allowing the traveler to reserve a travel plan based on a result of the determination for each request and communicate the reserved travel plan to a travel agency for subsequent processing;
determining whether each [booked] reserved travel plan complies with the

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~~enterprise policy data; and~~

~~updating the travel data to reflect each [booked] reserved travel plan and related expense information.~~

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70. (Amended) A system for managing travel of an enterprise using an accessible external source of information on travel resources, comprising:

- a storing component configured to store travel data associated with travelers of the enterprise, enterprise policy data, and preference data associated with each traveler;
- a receiving component configured to receive requests from the travelers to book travel plans;
- a determining component configured to determine whether there are available travel resources for each request based on preference data associated with the traveler;
- a [booking] reserving component configured to [book] allow a traveler to reserve a travel plan based on a result of the determination for each request and communicate the reserved travel plan to a travel agency for subsequent processing;
- a determining component configured to determine whether each [booked] travel plan complies with the enterprise policy data; and

10/24/04 (4) an updating component configured to update the travel data to reflect each [booked] reserved travel plan and related expense information.

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73. (Amended) A method for managing travel for an enterprise, comprising:
receiving a traveler's request to book a travel plan;
determining whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with travel management criteria;
selectively allowing the traveler to complete a travel reservation based on whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with the travel management criteria and selectively communicating the completed travel reservation to a travel agency for post reservation processing;
computing expense data corresponding to the travel plan; and
integrating the travel plan and the expense data into a storage subsystem having travel information for the enterprise.

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74. (Amended) The method of claim 73, wherein the determining step includes:
reviewing at least one travel policy for the enterprise, travel preferences for the [requester] traveler, and a travel arrangement between the enterprise [at] and a travel vendor associated with the request.

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75. (Amended) A computer-implemented method of managing travel for an enterprise, comprising the steps of:

interactively receiving a traveler's request to book a travel plan and determining whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with travel policies or travel preferences of the enterprise;

interactively allowing the traveler to selectively complete a travel reservation based on whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with the travel policies or travel preferences and selectively communicate the completed travel reservation to a travel agency for subsequent processing of the completed travel reservation;

computing expense data corresponding to the travel plan; and

maintaining a storing subsystem reflecting travel information for the enterprise, including requested travel plans and corresponding expense data.

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--76. The method of claim 20, wherein the step of receiving a request to book a travel plan from a traveler includes selectively allowing a corporate traveler to communicate with a computerized reservation system and at least one travel agency.

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77. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the series of graphical user interfaces are configured to allow the traveler to retrieve repeat trip data from a repeat trip file database and complete a modified travel reservation for a modified travel plan based on the repeat trip data.

78. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the series of graphical user interfaces are configured to allow the traveler to cancel a completed travel reservation.

79. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system includes an automated approval device for selectively obtaining corporate approval for a traveler's requested travel plan.

80. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 79, wherein the automated approval device determines whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with a set of policy preferences according to a selected relationship among policies

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within the set of policy preferences.

81. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 79, wherein the set of policy preferences include a project policy preference that takes precedence over an employee policy preference.
82. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 79, wherein the set of policy preferences include a negotiated hotel rate policy preference that takes precedence over a corporate-preferred vendor policy preference.
83. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system includes an cancel unauthorized trip device for allowing a corporate manager to cancel unauthorized travel plans.
84. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the traveler planning, expense

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reporting and travel management system includes an actual activity accounting device for determining whether a reserved trip activity actually occurred.

85. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management system includes a bargain search device for allowing the traveler to search for at least one bargain trip activity.

86. The client-server system for corporate traveler planning, expense reporting and travel management as recited in claim 1, wherein the series of graphical user interfaces are configured to allow the traveler to search for at least one bargain trip activity.

87. The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to determine whether the traveler's requested travel plan complies with a set of policy preferences according to a selected relationship among policies within the set of policy preferences.

88. The system of claim 87, wherein the set of policy preferences include a project policy preference that takes precedence over an employee policy preference.

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89. The system of claim 87, wherein the set of policy preferences include a negotiated hotel rate policy preference that takes precedence over a corporate-preferred vendor policy preference.
90. The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to determine whether a reserved trip activity actually occurred.
91. The system of claim 36, wherein the processor is further configured to allow the traveler to search for at least one bargain trip activity.
92. A computer-implemented method of managing travel for an enterprise, comprising the steps of:
 - receiving a request to book a travel plan for a traveler;
 - determining whether the travel plan complies with a set of travel policies according to a travel policy hierarchy that defines a relationship between each travel policy within the set of travel policies;
 - computing expense data corresponding to the travel plan; and
 - maintaining a storage subsystem reflecting travel information for the enterprise, including requested travel plans and corresponding expense data.